

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS: The Founding Fathers of Little Rock Air Force Base worked tirelessly over 32 days to raise \$800,000 of the \$1.2 million needed to purchase 6,100 acres of land to create a strategically located Air Force base in central Arkansas, and that the base opened its gates on October 9, 1955, to 80,000 Arkansans, showcasing its Airmen and mission to the public for the first time; and
- WHEREAS: The men and women of Little Rock Air Force Base served honorably and faithfully in support of the Vietnam War, stood as quiet, efficient deterrents during the Cold War with the base's bomber, reconnaissance, and tanker fleets, nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles, and cargo fleet; and
- WHEREAS: Global Air Mobility delivered the base's Airmen to the front lines during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Southern Watch and Northern Watch throughout the 1990s, all while providing routine airlift support to the Balkans, and global humanitarian airlift missions; and
- WHEREAS: The September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks resulted in the men and women of Little Rock Air Force Base directly defending the State and Nation from further attack during Operation Noble Eagle, and the base's Airmen directly supporting combat missions in Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom; and
- WHEREAS: The base served exceptionally as the Hurricane Katrina international cargo hub in 2005 for all incoming aid shipments from foreign countries, totaling 2,110 tons of aid offloaded by base logisticians, while C-130 crews flew 116 humanitarian airlift missions; and
- WHEREAS: The local communities around the base were awarded Air Mobility Command's Abilene Trophy in 2009 and 2011, the command's annual award for community support to one of its bases, formally recognizing the steadfast dedication of central Arkansas to the base's Airmen and their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October 4 through October 10, 2015, as

**LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE WEEK**

and October 9, 2015, as

**LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE DAY**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to honor those Airmen and their families, and civil servants who have proudly and honorably served our State and Nation at the base in Jacksonville for the past 60 years.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord 2015.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

  
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State